

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 GENEVA 01410 311154Z
ACTION SS-25

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EXDIS

USSALTTWO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PARM
SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF POST-PLenary DISCUSSIONS,
JANUARY 24, 1978 (SALT TWO-1589)

1. (REP. HILLIS-ROWNY/BELETSKY-USTINOV, A-1992)

ASBMS

BELETSKY'S REACTION TO U.S. STATEMENT WAS IT IS NOT VERY
POSITIVE STEP. BANNING MIRVED ASBMS FOR PERIOD OF
PROTOCOL NOT SUFFICIENT; SHOULD BE BANNED FOR TREATY.
USTINOV ASSERTED ASBMS, BOTH MIRVED AND UN-MIRVED, WERE
DESTABILIZING. BELETSKY SAID ALL NEW SYSTEMS DESTABI-
LIZING. BELETSKY SAID ALL NEW SYSTEMS DESTABILIZING.
SYSTEMS CURRENTLY IN BEING ARE KNOWN ENTITIES WHEREAS NEW
SYSTEMS ARE UNKNOWN ENTITIES AND THEREBY AUTOMATICALLY
DESTABILIZING.

2. (REP. HILLIS-G. JOHNSON/SHCHUKIN, A-1993)

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ANTI-SATELLITE

SHCHUKIN SAID BY NTM HE MEANT PRIMARILY SATELLITES AND
THEIR ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT. HE CITED EXAMPLE OF COUNTRIES
MAKING CLAIMS OF SOVEREIGNTY TO OUTER SPACE LOCATED OVER
THEM. HE HAD NEGATIVE ATTITUDE TO THIS POSITION AS IT

WOULD HINDER NTM OPERATING FROM SATELLITES. SHCHUKIN STRESSED THAT SOVIET UNION HAD NO DESIRE TO DESTROY SATELLITES AND SUCH THOUGHTS WERE FABRICATIONS. TESTING AND EXPERIMENTAL WORK NECESSARY TO KNOW HOW SECURE NTM WAS. TESTS WERE RUN BY SOVIET UNION BUT NOT INTENDED TO DEVELOP CAPABILITY TO DESTROY SATELLITES OF NTM, COMMUNICATIONS, OR GEODESY. SUCH INTENTIONS WOULD BE SENSELESS. TREATY PROVISION MEANT TO EXCLUDE PHYSICAL HARM TO NTM.

NON-CIRCUMVENTION/NON-TRANSFER

SHCHUKIN BELIEVED IT BEST IF U.S. AGREED TO ACCEPT U.S.S.R. PROPOSAL. HE NOTED REMOVAL BY SOVIETS OF SOME SPECIFICS ALTHOUGH CONCEPT OF SPECIFIC DETAILS PRESERVED. SIMILAR PROVISION EXISTED IN ABM TREATY.

ASBMS

SHCHUKIN PUZZLED THAT U.S. FELT FLIGHT TESTING AND DEPLOYMENT OF ASBMS BE BANNED ONLY FOR PROTOCOL. HE BELIEVED IT ABUNDANTLY CLEAR THAT NEITHER SIDE PLANNED TO DEPLOY THIS TYPE OF ARMAMENT. BEST TO BAN TESTING, DEVELOPMENT, DEPLOYMENT OF MIRVED ASBMS FOR TERM OF TREATY. BANNING MIRVED ASBMS WAS NOT QUESTION FOR WHICH WE DID NOT HAVE ANSWER AT PRESENT TIME. SHCHUKIN REMINDED THAT SIDES ONCE HAD CONSIDERED PARTIALLY ORBITAL ICBMS BUT DECIDED AGAINST SUCH
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WEAPONS IN ORDER TO GIVE RISE TO DOUBTS WITH RESPECT TO NEW CLASS OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS. ASBMS CREATED SIMILAR SITUATION GIVING SIDES OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE STEPS TO LIMIT QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE IMPROVEMENTS IN SYSTEMS. IF U.S. WANTED BAN ONLY FOR PROTOCOL, PERHAPS BETTER NOT TO DO IT AT ALL.

3. (RAMEE-KWIECIAK-MIHNOVETS/JOURAVLEV, A-2000)

HEAVY BOMBERS

JOURAVLEV SAID SOVIET FORMULATION RE BISON CONVERSION WAS DESIGNED TO MEET U.S. CONCERNS AND IN FACT SOLVES VARIANT PROBLEM. HE REPEATED ASSURANCES THAT BISONS WILL BE CONVERTED TO TANKERS OR DESTROYED AND TANKERS WILL BE GIVEN DISTINGUISHING FEATURES WHICH DEFINITELY SHOW THEY CANNOT BE USED AS BOMBERS. HE SAID BOMBERS WOULD COUNT UNTIL CONVERTED BUT TANKERS NOT SUBJECT TO ANY LIMITATIONS.

JOURAVLEV SUGGESTED SINCE SIDES COULD NOT ARRIVE AT MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE DEFINITION FOR CHARACTERISTICS/CAPABILITIES THEY SHOULD BE DELETED FROM TEXT. THIS WOULD

SIMPLIFY MATTERS. EARLE

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